

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF RISHTON.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Including details of work done by the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the District of Rishton for the

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1972

Medical Officer of Health,
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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

of the

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF RISHTON.

Council Offices,
RISHTON.
Blackburn.
BB1 4DN.

May, 1973.

Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the Health Administration of Rishton for the year ended 31st December, 1972.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,878.4.
Rateable Value..	...	...	...	...	...	...	£205,807
Estimated Product of 1p Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£ 1,977
Population 1961 Census	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,431
Estimated 1971 mid-year population	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,050
Estimated 1972 mid-year population	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,100

Rishton is a compact Urban area whose chief industries are felt and carpet weaving, paper making, paper string, paint, varnish, slipper and shoe manufacture and plastic products.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Death Rate (crude)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.3
Death Rate (adjusted to National Rate).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.6
Live Birth Rate (crude) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.4
Live Birth Rate (adjusted).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.9
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total births.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10

DEATHS OF INFANTS.

Under 1 year of age..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Perenatal Mortality Rate...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during 1972.

Measles...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Dysentery.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Scarlet Fever...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Infective Jaundice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES.

The Local Health & Welfare Services under the National Health and Assistance Acts are administered from the Divisional Offices, at Accrington.

Miss J. Lord is the Health Visitor/School Nurse for the Rishton District and the following are the services administered at the Child Welfare Clinic, 108, High Street, Rishton. Telephone No. Gt. Har.886426.

1. Child Welfare Clinic... .. Each Tuesday afternoon.
2. Immunisation Clinic As and when arranged.
3. Orthopaedic Clinic 4th Wednesday each month
(by appointment)
4. Ophthalmic Clinic 1st & 3rd Friday
(by appointment)
5. Dental Clinic Each Monday & Thursday.
6. Physiotherapy Each Wednesday (all day)

Wherever possible appointments should be made before attending the Clinics (under headings 3 to 6) are attended, though the Dental Officer will attend to cases of toothache without appointment.

The County Midwives for Rishton are:-

Mrs. Phillipson,
15, Southcliffe,
Gt. Harwood.
Telephone No: Lomax 281.

Mrs. Hodgson,
50, Whalley Road,
Gt. Harwood.
Telephone No: Gt. Harwood 884514

The County District Nurses for Rishton are:-

Mrs. Burton,
37, Whalley Road,
Gt. Harwood.
Telephone No: Gt. Harwood 886102

Mrs. Fielding,
2, Dorset Road,
Rishton.
Telephone No: Gt. Harwood 884877

Mr. Waddington,
55, Cliff Street,
Rishton.
Telephone No: Gt. Harwood 884595

To obtain the Ambulance Service, Ring Accrington 34834.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

				Males.	Females.	Total.
Live Births - Legitimate...	...	...	...	37	54	91
Live Births -Illegitimate..	...	...	...	5	4	9
				42	58	100
Stillbirths - Legitimate...	...	...	...	-	-	-
Stillbirths - Illegitimate.	...	...	...	-	-	-
Deaths...	...	...	...	43	38	81

POPULATION FIGURES OVER THE LAST TEN YEARS.

	Registrar General's Est.Figure.	Births.	Deaths.	Birth & Death Differential
1972	6,100	100	81	+ 19
1971	6,050	105	91	+ 14
1970	5,520	102	90	+ 12
1969	5,650	111	96	+ 15
1968	5,610	103	82	+ 21
1967	5,530	85	97	- 12
1966	5,440	82	85	- 3
1965	5,400	78	88	- 10
1964	5,370	83	83	-
1963	5,440	71	84	- 13

SUMMARY CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Malignant Neoplasms, Buccal Cavity,Etc	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasms,Oesophagus	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasms, Stomach	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasms, Lung, Bronchus	2	-	2
Malignant Neoplasms, Breast	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasms, Prostrate	1	-	1
Luekemia	-	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	3	5
Benign & Unspecified Neoplasms	1	-	1
Diabetes Mellitus	1	-	1
Other Endocrine,etc Diseases	-	1	1
Ischaemic Heart Diseases	8	12	20
Other forms of Heart Disease	3	2	5
Cerebrovascular Disease	7	4	11
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	3	5
Pneumonia	2	5	7
Bronchitis & Emphysema	8	2	10
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	-	1
Congenital Anomalies	1	1	2
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour,etc	1	-	1
Symptoms & Ill-defined conditions	-	1	1
All other accidents	2	-	2
	<u>43</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>81</u>

PUBLIC HEALTH TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS, 1930

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at 31st December, 1972, as compared with 1971.

	Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.			Total.		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1972	1	-	1	3	-	3	4	-	4
1971	1	-	1	3	-	3	4	-	4

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED
OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>1968.</u>	<u>1969.</u>	<u>1970.</u>	<u>1971.</u>	<u>1972.</u>
Measles.	3	3	66	-	19
Meningitis	1	-	1	-	-
Whooping Cough.	1	1	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis.	1	-	-	-	1
Dysentery.	-	-	-	2	3
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	-	-	3

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their support and encouragement through the year, and Mr. Pilkington and other officials and staff for their friendly help.

Yours faithfully

P. M. Sammon.

Medical Officer of Health.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE.

The free tipping facilities and free collection of household refuse has again been continued, but the sporadic dumping of all types of material still takes place in any convenient nook and cranny.

Adding to the problem and increasing the difficulty of maintaining cleanliness of the highways is the amount of structural work being carried out to premises all over the district. At the same time the improvements are giving a new face to the streets of Rishton and this is being reflected in the pride that the residents are now showing in their properties.

A further problem that is still with us is the wandering abroad at all hours are roaming dogs who are constantly fouling the pavements and footways.

SMOKE CONTROL.

Industry has continued in its progress towards a cleaner atmosphere. On the domestic front it has been impossible to continue with the programme, due to the pressures made on the department in other directions, mainly grant work, but a feature of the grant work has been that the Council insist on the property being smokeless at the completion of the grant work.

CLEANSING.

The quantities of rubbish removed still continues to rise and the peculiar feature on new housing estates is the fact that garden refuse in considerable quantities is finding its way into the household refuse. Indeed it is not unusual for 3,4 and sometimes 5 sacks to be presented for collection weekly from a single property. On investigation it would appear that the good gardening practice of maintaining a compost heap has now been lost.

Difficulty has been experienced during the year when our refuse vehicle has been off the road for any purpose. Being a vehicle of a specialized nature replacements are not easy to come by and the men have sometimes been asked to work with a vehicle that was not entirely satisfactory for the purpose for which it was intended.

Tipping facilities have been extended this year to include a railway cutting alongside the existing tipping area in readiness for the levelling and seeding of the existing tip.

FOOD PREMISES.

There has been no introduction of any new Food Manufacturing premises during the year. Frequent inspections have been made of existing food handling premises, and it is found that the ready co-operation given by the food handlers has been readily maintained.

HOUSING.

Houses inspected for defects...	...	...	...	...	...	32
No. of inspections made for the purpose ...	...	...	...	...	...	87
No. of Dwelling houses not found in all respects fit for human habitation ...					...	-
No. of Dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation						-
No. of Dwelling houses rendered fit by informal action. ...					...	21
No. of Dwelling houses in respect of which formal notice was served ...				...	...	1
No. made fit by Local Authority after service of formal notice.						-
Certificates of unfitness applied for ...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Certificates of Revocation applied for ...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Certificates of Revocation Granted...	...	...	...	...	...	-

STANDARD GRANTS.

Applications submitted to Local Authority...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Approved by Local Authority ...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Work completed ...	...	...	...	...	...	23

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Applications submitted to Local Authority ...	...	...	...	...	...	234
Approved by Local Authority...	...	...	...	...	...	234
Work completed ...	...	...	...	...	...	144

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS (cont.)

Applications have come in at a fast and steady rate during the whole of the year. Unfortunately the building trade has expanded so rapidly that the capital of the builders involved has been stretched to the limit and difficulties have been experienced in maintaining the standard of work due to the introduction of many unskilled employees who are expected to carry out skilled work. During the course of the works difficulties have been experienced in maintaining the general tidiness of the area, but the benefits are seen at the completion with the new pride that the residents feel in their homes. The time is now right for the areas themselves to be improved, which would give the residents further cause for pride in the areas in which they live.

FACTORIES ACT 1937 AND 1948

	<u>No. on</u> <u>Register.</u>	<u>Inspections.</u>	<u>Written</u> <u>Notices.</u>	<u>Occupiers</u> <u>Prosecutions.</u>
1. Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority,	-	-	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) above in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	18	12	-	-
3. Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	-	-	-	-
	18	12	-	-

